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Application No: 10/593,552

Filed: June 4, 2007

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-14 (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended): Method for producing a base material for screen printing, which comprises a screen, a resist layer comprising photosensitive material and a protective film, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) applying a first resist layer to one side of the protective film,
- b) drying the first resist layer,
- c) applying an additional resist layer to the first resist layer, and
- d) then applying a screen to the additional resist layer, the side of the additional resist layer to which the screen is applied being wet, and the screen being pressed into the additional resist layer under pressure from a pressure-exerting element wherein the pressure-exerting element is a roller which makes direct contact with the screen, using a counter-pressure roller opposite the roller and on the other side of the assembly made up of a screen, resist layer and protective film, whereby the roughness of the surface of layers is expressed by Rz value which is measured in accordance with the DIN 4768 standard, whereby the surface of the resist layer, on the side on which protective film is present, is sufficiently smooth for the Rz value of the said surface to be lower than 15 micrometers,

and in which the resist layer comprises the additional resist layer and the first resist layer.

16. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 15, in which the screen is applied without the additional resist layer being dried beforehand.

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17. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 15, in which the screen which is applied is an electroformed screen.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 15, in which the pressure-exerting surface of the roller is provided with a coating material with an open-cell structure.

20. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 15, in which the roller makes direct contact with the screen in the tangential direction over a length which is less than the diameter of the openings of the screen at the contact surface of the screen.

21. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 15, in which the roller is compressible.

22. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 15, in which the first resist layer which is applied has a thickness at least equal to that of the additional resist layer which is applied.

23. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 15, in which the additional resist layer which is applied is from 2 to 10 micrometres thick.

24. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 15, in which the additional resist layer which is applied comprises the same type of resist as the first resist layer which is applied.

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25. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 15, in which two intermediate steps are carried out between steps b) and c), namely:

- i) covering the first resist layer with a separating sheet and rolling up the subassembly comprising protective film, first resist layer and separating sheet, and
- ii) then unrolling the rolled-up subassembly and removing the separating sheet.

26. (Withdrawn) Base material for screen printing, which comprises a screen, a resist layer comprising photosensitive material and a protective film, the screen comprising a network of dykes which delimit openings, wherein the surface of the resist layer, on the side on which protective film is present, is sufficiently smooth for the Rz value of the said surface to be lower than 15 micrometres.

27. (Withdrawn) Base material for screen printing according to claim 26, wherein the distance (d) from the dykes of the screen to the surface of the resist layer on the side of the protective film is uniform.

28. (Withdrawn) Base material for screen printing according to claim 26, wherein the height (h) of the resist layer is uniform between the dykes of the screen.

29. (Withdrawn) Base material for screen printing, which comprises an electroformed screen, a resist layer of photosensitive material and a protective film.